IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

BUCKNER et al.

SERIAL NO.:

10/599,662

EXAMINER: PORTER, JR., GARY A.

FILED:

OCTOBER 4, 2006

ART UNIT: 3766

TITLE: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE

SURGICAL TREATMENT OF CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE CONFIRMATION NO.: 2433

VIA EFS

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REMARKS

Sir:

Applicant responds to the Office Action mailed September 30, 2008 as follows:

Claim amendments begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 9.